

POLICY

No. 5015

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PHYSICAL RESTRAINT OF PUPILS

The Board of Cooperative Educational Services holds the belief that the classroom teacher is the key person responsible for the maintenance of acceptable discipline among students. A well-planned program that keeps pupils occupied with work that is meaningful, interesting, and challenging is the best means of preventing disruptive behavior by a student. The Board recognizes, however that under certain circumstances, a classroom teacher, supervisor or administrator may find it necessary to resort to reasonable and prudent physical restraint in maintaining order in or on school premises. Accordingly:

- a. As a general rule, no physical force may be used upon any student by any BOCES employee. However, physical restraint may be used when necessary to prevent threatened assault, whether it be self-inflicted, upon other students, employees or other authorized personnel.
- b. It is recognized such physical restraint shall be used only as a preventive measure to restrain a student or students from inflicting bodily harm to themselves or to others.
- c. Nothing contained in this policy shall be construed as permitting the use of corporal punishment by employees, nor are employees authorized to use physical means to punish students for disorderly conduct.
- d. The parents or guardians of a child who has been physically restrained shall be promptly notified of the incident. A child shall be seen by a nurse immediately following the incident, whenever possible.
- e. A written report by the person who led the restraint summarizing the incident, action taken and personnel involved shall be submitted to the supervising administrator within a reasonable time frame, but not to exceed three (3) work days.
- f. The circumstances and alleged actions may be subject to review by the District Superintendent or his/her designated representative.

Adopted: May 16, 1983
Ratified: June 20, 1983
Amended: December 20, 2004